The Fore-Runner OF REVENGE.

Being two Petitions:

THE ONE

To the KINGS moſt Excellent Maieſty:

THE OTHER,

To the moſt Honourables Houſes of Parliament.

Wherein is expreſſed divers actions of the late Earle of *Buckingham*; eſpecially concerning the death of King *Iames*, and the Marqueſs *Hamelton*, ſuppoſed by poyſon.

Alſo may be obſerved the inconveniences befalling a State where the Noble diſpoſition of the Prince is miſ-led by a Favourite.

By *George Egliſham* Doctor of Phyſick, and one of the Phyſitians to King *Iames* of happy memory, for his Maieſties perſon above ten years ſpace.

Printed at London in the yeare 1642.

To the most Potent Monarch CHARLES, King of great BRITAINE.

The humble Petition of George Eglisham *Doctor of Physicke, lately one of King* Iames *his Physitians for his Majesties person above the space of ten yeares.*

SIR,

NO better motive there is for a safe government, then the safe meditation of death, (equalling Kings with Beggars) and the exact justice of God requiring of them, that the good suffering misery in this life, should receive joy in the other; and the wicked flourishing securely in this, might be punished in the other. That which pleaseth, lasteth but a moment; which tormenteth, is everlasting. Many things we see unrewarded or unpunished in this inferior world, which in the universall weight of Gods justice, must bee counterpoised elswhere. But wilfull and secret murther hath seldome been observed to escape undiscovered or unpunished even in this life, such a particular and notable revenge perpetually followeth it, to the end that they who are either Atheists or Matchiavelists, may not trust too much to their wits in doing so horrible injustice; would to God your Majesty would well consider what I have often said to my Master, King *Iames*, the greatest policie is honesty; and howsoever any man seeme to himselfe wise in compassing his desires by trickes, yet in the end he will prove a foole: for falshood ever deceiveth her owne master at length, as the Divell (author of all falshood) alwayes doth, leaving his adherents dessolate when they have the greatest need of his help; No falshood without injustice, no injustice without falshood, albeit it were in the person of a King.

There is no Judge in the world more tied to do justice then a King, whose coronation tieth him unto it by solemne oath, which if he violate, he is false and perjured.

It is justice that maketh Kings, justice that maintains Kings, and injustice that brings Kings and Kingdomes to destruction, to fall into misery, to die like Asses in ditches, or a more beastly death, eternall infamy after death, as all histories from time to time do clearly manifest.

What need hath mankind of Kings but for justice? Men are not borne for them, but they for men: what greater, what more royall occasion in the world could bee offered to your Maj. to shew your impartiall disposition in matters of justice at the first entry of your reigne, then this which J offer in my just complaint against *Buckingham*, by whom your Majesty suffereth your self so far to be led, that your best subjects are in doubt whether he is your King, or you his. If your Majesty know and consider how he hath tyrannized over his Lord and Master K. *James*, (the worldly creator of his fortunes) how insolent, how ingrate an oppressor, what a murtherer and traitor he hath proved himselfe towards him, how treacherous to his upholding friends, the Marquess of Hamelton, and others, your Majesty may think (giving way to the Lawes demanded against him) to yeeld a most glorious field for your Majesty to walk in, and display the banner of your royall vertues.

Your Majesty may perhaps demand, what interest J have therein, what have J to doe therewith, that J should stir, all others being quiet? Sir, the quietnes or stirring of others, expecteth only a beginning from me, whom they know so much obliged to stirre, as none can bee more, both in respect of knowledge of passages, and in regard of humane obligation, and of my independancy from the accused, or any other that his power or credit can reach unto, many know not what J know therein, others are little or nothing beholding to the dead; others albeit they know it as well as J, and are obliged as deep as J, yet dare not complain so safely as J, being out of their reach, who are inseparable from him by his inchantments, and all to obscure my selfe, untill the power of just revenge upon him be obtained from God.

What J know sufficient against him, J have set downe in my petition against him to the Parliament; to which if your Majesty dismisse him, sequestred from your Majesty chiefly in an accusation of treason, you shall doe what is just, and deliver your self and your Kingdome from the captivity in which he holdeth them, and your Majesty oppressed.

How

How easily J may eclipse my selfe from his power to doe me harme, unless he hath legions of infernall spirits at his command to pursue me, your Majesty may well know, J being *ultra mare* to these dominions where he ruleth and rageth.

How far J am obliged to complain more then others, J will in few words express, that neither your Majesty nor any man may think other wise, but that J have most just reason not to be silent in a wrong so intollerable, the interest of blood which J have to any of them, of whose death J complain either by the house of *Balgony Lunday* or *Silverton-Hill*, albeit it is easie to be made manifest and sufficient to move me, yet it is not the sole motive of my breach of silence, but the interest of received curtesie, and the heap of infallible tokens of true affection, is more then sufficient to stir me thereto, unlesse J would prove the most ingrate in the world, and senseles of the greatest injuries that can bee done unto my selfe; for who killed King *James*, and Marquess *Hamelton*, in that part of the injury which is done unto me therein, hee hath done as much as robbed mee of my life, and all my fortunes and friends.

With such constant and loving impressions of me as are neither to be recovered n[illegible]ly valued: for his Majesty from the third year of my age, did practise honorable tokens of singular favour towards me, daily augmented them in word, in writ, in deed, accompanied them with gifts, patents, offices, recommendations both in privat and publicke, at home and abroad graced so far that J could scarce aske any thing, but J could have obtained it.

How much honor he hath done unto me, there needs no witnes unto your Majesty, who is sufficient for many; no less is my L. Marq. *Hameltons* friendship established by mutual obligation of most acceptable offices continued by our ancestors these three generations, ingraven in the tender minds and yeares of the Marquess and me in the presence of our Soveraigne King *Iames*. For when the Marquess his Father, who with the right hand on his head & the left on mine, did offer us (young in years so joyned) to kiss his Ma. hand, recommending me to his Ma. favour, said J take God to witnes, that this young mans father was the best friend that ever J had, or shall have in this world. Whereupon the young Lord resolved to put trust in mee and J fully to addict my selfe to him, to deserve of him as much commendations as my father did of his father.

This Royall celebration of our friends rooted it selfe so deep in my minde, that to my selfe I purposed this remembrance, giving it to my young Lord, and to my familiar friends, and set it upon the bookes of my study, *Semper Hameltonium, &c.*

Alwayes the King and Hamelton
Within thy breast conserve,
What ever be thy actions,
Let Princes two deserve.

Neither was it in vain, for both our loves increased with our age, the Marques promising to engage his life and whole estate for mee, if need were, and so share his fortunes with me; and not onely promising, but also performing when ever there was occasion; yea for my sake offering to hazard his life in combat, whose minde in wishing me well, whose tongue in honouring of mee, and whose hands and means in defending me (both absent and present, unto the last period of his life) hath ever assisted me.

I should be more tedious then were fit, if I should rehearse every particular favour so manifestly knowne to the whole Court, and to the friends of us both, who then can justly blame me damanding justice as well for the slaughter of the Marqueſſe of Hamelton, as of my most gracious Soveraigne King *Iames*, seeing I know whom to accuse; My profession of Physicke, nor my education to letters, cannot serve to hinder me from undertaking the hardest enterprise that ever any Roman undertooke, so farre as the Law of conscience will give way.

Why should I stay at the decay
Of Hamelton's *the hope,*
Why shall I see thy foe so free,
Vnto this joy give scope?
Rather I pray a dolefull day
Set me in cruell fate:
Then thy death strange without revenge,
Or him in safe estate.

This soule to heavens, hand to the dead I vow,
No fraudfull minde, nor trembling hand I have:
If pen it shun, the sword revenge shall follow.
Soule, Pen and Sword, what thing but just doe crave.

What affection I bore to the living, the same shall accompany the dead: for when one, (whose truth and sincerity was well knowne unto me) told me that it was better that the chiefest of my friends, the Marquesse of Hamelton, to be quiet at home in Scotland, then eminent in Court of England; to whom by the opinion of the wiser sort, his being at Court will cost him no lesse then his life, sith that I stretching forth mine arme (apprehending some plots laid against him) answered, if no man dare to revenge his death, I vow to God this hand of mine shall revenge it, scarcely any other cause to bee found, then the bond of our close friendship, why in the scrowle of Noble mens names who were to be killed, I should be set downe next to the Marques of Hamelton and under these words, viz. (*the Marquesse and Doctor Eglisham to embalme him*) to wit, to the end that no discoverer or revenger should be left, this roll of names, *I* know not by what destiny, was found neere to Westminster, about the time of the Duke of Richmond his death, and brought to the Lord Marquesse by his cozen the daughter of the Lord Oldbarre, one of the privy Councell of Scotland, did cause no terrour in me untill *I* did see the Marquesse poysoned, and remembred that the rest therein noted, were dead, and my selfe next pointed at only surviving, why stay *I* any more, the cause requireth no more the pen but the sword?

I doe not write so boldly, because I am amongst the Dukes enemies, but I have retired my selfe to his enemies, because I was resolved to to write and doe earnestly against him as may very well appeare: for since the Marquesse of Hameltons death, the most noble Marquesse *de Fiatta*, Embassador for the most Christian King of France, and also Buckingham his mother sent on everyside to seek me, inviting me to them, but I did forsake them, knowing certainly the falshood of Buckingham would suffer the Embassador rather to receive an affront then to be unsatisfied of his blood-thirsty desire of my blood, to silence mee with death (for according to the proverb, *The dead cannot bite*) if he could have found me: for my Lord *Duke of Lenox*, who was often crossed by *Buckingham*, with his brother and the Earle of Southampton now dead, was one of the roll found of those that were to be murthered, well

assured

assured me, that where *Buckingham* once misliked, no apologie, no submission, no reconciliation could keep him from doing mischiefe.

Neither do I write this in this fashion so freely for any entertainment here present, which I have not, nor for any future which I have no ground to look for, seeing *Buckingham* hath so much mislead your Ma: that he hath caused not only here, but also in all nations, all Britain Natives to be disgraced and mistrusted, your Ma: most royall word, which should be inviolable, your hand and seal which should be infringeable, to be most shamefully violated, and your selfe to be most ingrate for your kind usage in Spain, which *Buckingham* maketh to bee requited with injuries in a most base manner; under protestation of friendship, a bloody war being kindled on both sides, whereby he hath buried with King *Iames*, the glorious name of *Peace-making King*, who had done much more justly and advisedly if hee had procured peace unto Christendome, whereby small hope I have of obtaining justice on my most just complaint unto which my deare affection unto my deare friends murthered and extream detestation of *Buckingham* his violent proceedings hath brought me. Your Ma: may finde most just causes to accuse him in my Petition to the Parliament, which shall serve for a touch-ston to your Ma: and a whetstone to me & many other *Scotchmen*; and which if it be neglected, will make your Majesty to incur a censure amongst all vertuous men in the world. that your Ma: will be loath to heare of, and I am astonished to express at this time,

A Serpent lurketh in the grasse.

No other way there is to be found to save your honour, but to give way to justice against that traytor *Buckingham*, by whom manifest danger approacheth to your Majesty, no otherwise then death approached to King *James*.

If your Maj. will therefore take any course therein, the examination upon oath of all those that were about the King and the Marques of Hamelton in their sickneſſe, or at their deaths, or after their deaths, before indifferent Judges (no dependants on *Buckingham*) will serve for sufficient proofe of *Buckingham* his guiltinesse. In the mean-time, untill I see what will be the issue of my complaint, without any more speech, I rest,

Your Majesties daily Suppliant,
George Eglisham.

To

To the most Honourable the Nobilitie Knights and Burgesses of the Parliament of ENGLAND.

The humble Petition of George Eglisham *Doctor of Physicke, and one of the Physitians to K.* Iames *of happy memory, for his Majesties person above the space of ten yeares.*

WHereas the chiefe humane care of Kings, and Courts of Parliament, is, the preservation and protection of the subiects lives, liberties and estates, from private and publicke injuries, to the end that all things may bee carried in the equall ballance of justice, without which no monarchy, no Commonwealth, no society, no family, yea no mans life or estate can consist, albeit never so little: It cannot bee thought unjust to demand of Kings and Parliaments the censure of wrongs, the consideration whereof was so great in our Monarch of happy memory King IAMES, that hee hath often publickly protested, even in the presence of his apparant heire, that if his owne sonne should commit murther, or any such execrable act of injury, he would not spare him, but would have him dye for it, and would have him more severely punished then any other: For he very well observed, no greater injustice, no injury more intollerable can be done by man to man, then murther. In all other wrongs fortune hath recourse, the losse of honour or goods may bee repaired, satisfaction may be made, reconciliation may be procured, so long as the party injured is alive. But when the party murthered is bereft of his life, what can restore it? what satisfaction can be given him? where shall the murtherer meet with him to be reconciled to him, unlesse he be sent out of this world to follow his spirit, which by his wickednesse he hath separated from his body? Therefore of all injuries, of all the actes of injustice, of all things most to bee looked into, murther is the greatest: And of all murthers, the poysoning under trust and profession of friendship, is the most heyncus, which if you

 suffer

ſuffer to goe unpuniſhed, let no man thinke himſelfe ſo ſecure to live amongſt you, as amongſt the wildeſt and moſt furious beaſts in the world: for by vigilancy and induſtry, meanes may be had to reſiſt or evict the moſt violent beaſt that ever nature bred, but from falſe and treacherous hearts, from poyſoning murthers, what wit or wiſedome can defend?

This concerneth your Lordſhips every one in particular, as well as my ſelfe. They (of whoſe poyſoning your Petitioner complaineth) viz. King IAMES, the Marqueſſe of HAMELTON, and others whoſe names after ſhall be expreſſed, have been the moſt eminent in the Kingdome, and ſate on theſe Benches whereon your Honours doe now ſit. The party whom your Petitioner accuſeth, is the Duke of Buckingham, who is ſo powerfull, that unleſſe the whole body of a Parliament lay hold on him, no juſtice can bee had of him: For what place is there of juſtice, what office of the Crowne, what degree of honour in the Kingdome, which he hath not ſold? And ſold in ſuch craft, that he can ſhake the buyer out of them, and intrude others at his pleaſure.

All the Judges of the Kingdome, all the Officers of State, are his bound vaſſals, or allies are afraid to become his out-caſts, as it is notorious to all his Majeſties true and loving ſubjects; yea ſo farre hath his ambitious practice gone, that what the King would have done, could not be done if hee oppoſed it, whereof many inſtances may be given, whenſoever they ſhall be required: Neither are they unknown to this Honourable aſſembly howſoever the means he uſeth be, whether lawfull or unlawfull, whether humane or diaboliq[illegible]e, ſo hee tortureth the Kingdome, that he procureth the calling, breaking or continuing of the Parliament, at his pleaſure, placing and diſplacing the officers of Juſtice, of the Councell of the Kings Court, of the Courts of juſtice, to his violent pleaſure, and as his ambitious villany moveth him: What hope then can your Petitioner have, that his complaint ſhould be heard; or being heard, ſhould take effect? To obtaine juſtice, hee may deſpaire; to provoke the Duke to ſend forth a poyſoner or murtherer to diſpatch him & ſend him after his dead friends already murthered, he may be ſure this to be the event. Let the event bee what it will, come whatſoever can come, the loſs of his own life your Petitioner valueth not, having ſuffered the loſs of the lives of ſuch eminent friends, eſteeming his life cannot be better beſtowed, then upon diſco-

very

very of so heynous murthers; yea the juſtnes of the cauſe, the dearneſs and neerneſs of his friends murthered, ſhall prevaile ſo farre with him, that he ſhall unfold unto your Honours, and unto the whole world, againſt the accuſed, and name him the authour of ſo great murthers, *George Villers, Duke of Buckingham*, which againſt any private man, are ſufficient for his apprehenſion and torture. And to make his complaint not very tedious, he will only for the preſent, declare unto your Honours, the two eminent murthers committed by Buckingham, to wit of the Kings Majeſty, and of the Lord Marqueſs Hamelton, which for all the ſubtilly of his poyſoning Art, could not bee ſo cunningly conveyed as the murtherer thought, but that God hath diſcovered manifeſtly the authour. And to obſerve the order of the time of their death, becauſe the Lord Marqueſs of Hamelton died firſt, his death ſhall be firſt related, even from the root of his firſt quarrell with Buckingham, albeit many other jarres have proceeded from time to time betwixt them.

Concerning the poyſoning of the Lord Marqueſſe HAMELTON.

BVCKINGHAM once raiſed from the bottome of Fortunes wheele to the top, by what deſert, by what right or wrong, no matter it is, (by his carriage the proverb is verified) *Nothing more proud then baſeſt blood, when it doth riſe aloft*. He ſuffered his ambition to carry himſelfe ſo farre, as to aſpire to match his blood with the Blood-Royall both of England and Scotland. And well knowing, that the Marqueſs of Hamelton was acknowledged by King *James* to bee the prime man in his dominions, who next to his owne line, in his proper ſeaſon might claime an hereditary Title to his Crown of Scotland, by the daughter of King *James* the ſecond, and to the Crowne of England by *Joane* of Sommerſet, wife to King *James* the firſt, declared by an Act of Parliament Heretrix of England to bee in her due ranke, never ſuffered the King to be at reſt, but urged him alwayes to ſend ſome of his Privie Councell to ſolicite the Marqueſs to match his eldeſt ſonne with Buckingham's

hams Neece, making great promiſes of conditions, which the meane family of the Bride could not performe, without the Kings liberality, to wit, fifty thouſand pound Sterling, valuing five hundred thouſand Florens with the Earldome of Orkney, under the title of Duke, whatſoever the Marqueſſe would accept, even to the firſt Duke of Britaine.

The glorious Title of a Duke the Marqueſs refuſed twice, upon ſpeciall reaſons reſerved to himſelfe.

The matter of money was no motive to cauſe the Marqueſs to match his ſonne ſo enequall to his degree ſeeing Buckingham himſelfe, the chiefe of her kindred was but a novice in Nobility, his father obſcure amongſt Gentlemen, his mother a Serving-woman: and hee being infamous for his frequent conſultation with the Ringleader of Witches, principally that falſe Doctor *Lamb*, publickly coudemned for with-craft; whereby the Marqueſs knowing that the King was ſo farre bewitched to Buckingham, that if hee refuſed the match demanded, he ſhould finde the Kings deadly hatred againſt him; And ſeeing that Buckinghams Neece was not yet Nubile in yeares, and that before the marriage ſhould be confirmed, a way might be found out to annull it, unto wich he was forced by deceitfull importunity: therefore hee yeelded unto the Kings deſire of the match; whereupon Buckingham and his faction fearing that delayes would bring lets, urged my Lord Marqueſſe to ſend for his ſonne upon a Sunday morning betimes in all haſte from London to Court at Greenwich, where never a word was ſpoken of marriage to the young Lord till a little before Supper, and the marriage made before the King after Supper. And to make it more authenticke, Buckingham cauſed his Neece to be laid in bed with the Marqueſſe his ſonne, for a ſhort time in the Kings Chamber, and in his Majeſties preſence albeit the Bride was yet innubile. Many were aſtoniſht at the ſudden newes thereof; all the Marqueſs his friends fre ting thereat, and ſome writing unto him very ſcornfull letters for the ſame.

The Marqueſs having ſatisfied the Kings demands, did what hee could to prevent the confirmation of the marriage, and intended to ſend his ſonne beyond the ſeas to travell through France, and ſo to paſſe his time abroad untill that meanes were found to unty that knot which Buckingham had urged the King to tie upon his ſonne.

But Buckingham to countermand the Marqueſs his deſigne, cauſes the *King* and Prince to make the Marqueſs his ſonne to be ſworne Gentleman of the Princes Bed-chamber, and ſo to bee detained with him within the *Kingdome*, untill that the Bride was at yeares ripe for marriage.

The time expired that Buckinghams Neece became marriageable, Buckingham ſent to the Marqueſs to deſire him to make the marriage to be compleatly confirmed.

The Marqueſs (not willing to heare of any ſuch matter) anſwered briefly, he ſcorned the motion.

This anſwer reported to Buckingham, and ſeeing himſelfe like to be fruſtrated of his ambitious matching of his Neece, and perceiving that the Lord Marqueſſe was able to raiſe a great faction againſt him, whether *King James* did live or die, was mightily incenſed againſt the Marqueſs: At the firſt incounter with him, did chalenge him for ſpeaking diſdainfully of him and his Houſe.

The Marqueſs replied, he did not remember any offenſive words uttered by himſelfe againſt Buckingham. Buckingham then proudly ſaid unto him, Out of the words of thy mouth I will judge thee: for you have ſaid you ſcorne the motion of matching with my Houſe, which I made unto you. The Marqueſs anſwered, that if hee had ſaid ſo, it became not the Duke to ſpeake unto him in that faſhion. So Buckinghrm threatned to be revenged: The Marqueſs uttered his defiance; and thus the quarrell began, which foure or five times was reiterated, and as often reconciled by the Marqueſs *de Fiatta*, a little before the Marqueſs of Hamelton fell ſick: wherein it is very evident, that the quarrell hath been very violent, that needed ſo many reconciliations. The Dukes fire of his anger, and fury being unextinguiſhable, as *King James* did often cenſure him in his abſence, albeit that a Favourite, that hee was wonderfull vindicative whoſe malice was inſatiable towards my Lords Marqueſſe of Hamelton, did well ſhew it ſelfe, as ſhall appeare hereafter.

Hardly can any man tell whether by the Marqueſs in his ſickneſſe, Buckingham was more ſuſpected then accuſed of the poyſon given or to be given him: for he would not taſte of any thing that was ſent to him by any of *Buckinghams* friends; but hee would have ſome of his ſervants taſte of it before: and for the love that was mutuall between him and your Petitioner (whom hee would never ſuffer to goe out of

his sight during his sickneſſe) your Petitioner caſt off all that hee took in that time, unto whom his ſuſpition of Buckingham he expreſſed by name before ſufficient witnes, who will teſtifie it upon oath, if there be any courſe taken therin for the ſearch therof. All the time of his ſickneſſe he intreated your Petitioner not to ſuffer my Lord of Buckingham to come neere him, and your Petitioner having often ſent word, and alſo ſometimes ſignified himſelfe to Buckingham, that there was no fit opportunity to ſee the Marqueſs, pretending ſomething to be miniſtred to him. But when your Petitioner could finde no more excuſes, he told my Lord Marqueſs that he had put away my Lord of Buckingham ſo often, that he could not keep him away any longer, but that he muſt needs ſee him.

Then hee knowing Buckinghams viſitation to proceed of diſſimulation, requeſted your petitioner at laſt to finde the meanes to get him away quickly; which your Petitioner did, interrupting Buckingham his diſcourſe, and intreating him to ſuffer my Lord Marqueſs to bee quiet.

This did evidently ſhew my Lord Marqueſs his diſliking and diſtruſting of Buckingham, whereas hee was well pleaſed with other Noblemens Company. All the time of his ſickneſſe, the Duke and my Lord Denbigh would not ſuffer his owne ſonne to come to him, pretending that he was alſo ſicke; which was falſe for the time that my Lord Marqueſs called for him. After this your Petitioner adviſed his Lordſhip to diſpoſe of his eſtate, and of his conſcience, his ſickneſſe was not without danger. which your Petitioner foure dayes before my Lords death, did in ſuch manner perceive, that hee had cauſe to deſpaire of his health, but intreated him to commit all the care of his health to God and his Phyſitians, aſſuring howſoever hee had gotten wrong abroad, he ſhould get none in the cure of his diſeaſe.

At length his Lordſhip burſt out in theſe words to my Lord Denbigh, It is a great cruelty in you, that you will not ſuffer my ſonne to come to me when I am dying that I may ſee him, and ſpeake to him before I dye. So they delayed his comming with excuſes, untill my Lord his agony of death was neere, to the end that he ſhould not have time to give his ſonne private inſtructions to ſhun the marriage of Buckinghams Neece, or to ſignifie unto him the ſuſpition of poyſon: for they had rather his ſonne ſhould know any thing, then either of theſe;

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yet many did ſuſpect his poyſon before he died: for two dayes before his death, two of his ſervants died with manifeſt ſignes and ſuſpition of poyſon, the one belonging to the Wine-celler, the other to the Kitchin.

The Fatall houre being come, that my Lord Marqueſs deceaſed, your Petitioner intreated all were preſent, to ſuffer no man to touch his body, un till that he returned to ſee it opened. For then he proteſted earneſtly, that all the time of his ſickneſſe, he judged him to bee poyſoned; but this poyſon was ſuch, and ſo farre gone, that none could help it: Nevertheles, to have the matter concealed, Buckingham would have him buried that ſame night in Weſtminſter Church, and the Ceremonies of his buriall to be kept afterwards, ſaying, that ſuch delicate bodies as his could not be kept.

But his friends taking hold of the caveat before given by your Petitioner, refuſed ſo to doe, and replied, that they would have him, as became him, to bee buried in Scotland in his owne Chappell, where all his Anceſters have beene buried for more then theſe foure hundred yeares; and that his body muſt firſt bee viſited by his Phyſitians.

No ſooner was he dead, when the force of the poyſon had overcome the force of his body, but it began to ſwell in ſuch ſort, that his Thighes were ſwolne ſixe times as bigge as their naturall proportion: his Belly became as bigge as the belly of an Oxe, his Armes as the naturall quantity of his Thighes, his Neck ſo broad as his Shoulders, his Cheekes over the top of his Noſe, that his Noſe could not be ſeen or diſtinguiſhed, the skin of his fore-head two fingers high ſwelled, the haire of his beard eye-browes and head, ſo farre diſtant one from another, as if an hundred had been taken out betweene each one; and when one did touch the haire, it came away with the skin as eaſily, as if one had pulled hay out of an heap of hay. He was all over his neck, breaſt, ſhoulders, armes, and browes, I ſay of divers colours, full of waters of the ſame colour, ſome white, ſome blacke, ſome red, ſome yellow, ſome greene, ſome blew, and that as well within his body as without.

Alſo the concavities of his Liver greene, his ſtomach in ſome places a little purpurated with a blew clammy water, adhering to the ſides of it. His Mouth and Noſe foaming blood mixt with froth mightily, of divers colours a yard high. Your Petitioner

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being ſent for to viſit his body, and his ſervants all flocking about him, ſaying, See, ſee, preſently weeping, ſaid hee was poyſoned, and that it was a thing not to bee ſuffered.

Moreover, he ſaid, that albeit his ſpeech might coſt him his life, yet ſeing his ſorrow had extorted that ſpeech out of him, hee would make it manifeſt, and would have a Jury of Phyſitians. Preſently, ſome of my Lord Marqueſs of Hameltons friends ſaid, we muſt ſend to my Lord Duke, that he may ſend his Phyſitians: but your Petitioner replied, what have we to doe with the Dukes Phyſitians? Let us have indifferent men. Captaine *Hamelton* hearing your Petitioner ſo boldly take exceptions at Buckingham, and judging that he had good reaſon for what he had ſpoken, ſaid, for all that let us ſend to the Duke, and ſignifie that they all who have ſeen the Marqueſs his body, both Phyſitians, Chyrurgeons, and others, may ſee that hee is poyſoned, and that his friends deſire more Phyſitians out of the Colledge of London, beſides the Dukes Phyſitians, to beare wineſſe in what caſe the Marqueſs his body is in; and then if the Dukes conſcience be guilty (ſaid the Captaine,) it will ſhew it ſelfe, as indeed it did: for the Duke being advertiſed hereof, ſent for his owne Phyſitians, and others out of London, whom he cauſed firſt to be brought unto him, before they went to ſee the Marqueſs his body, giving them his directions in theſe words, viz.

My Maſters, there is a bruit ſpread abroad, that the Marqueſſe of Hamelton is poyſoned; Goe ſee, but beware what you ſpeake of poyſon (which he ſaid in a threatning forme of delivery) for every Noble man that dieth muſt be poyſoned.

If his conſcience had not been guilty, ſhould not he have commanded the Phyſitians to enquire by all meanes poſſible, and make it knowne rather then to ſuppreſſe the ſpeech of poyſoning ſo worthy a man.

Theſe Phyſitians being come, your Petitioner with one hand leading Doctor *More* to the Table where the Marqueſs his body was layd, and with the other hand throwing off the cloath from the body, ſaid to him, Look you here upon this ſpectacle.

At the ſight whereof Doctor *More* lifting up both his hands, heart and eyes to the heavens, aſtoniſhed, ſaid, Jeſus bleſſe me, I never ſaw

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the like, I cannot diſtinguiſh a face upon him; and in like manner all the reſt of the Doctors, and alſo the Chyrurgeans affirmed, that they never ſaw the like, albeit that they have travelled and practiſed thorow the greateſt part of Europe: onely one, that ſaid, My Lord of Southampton was bliſtered all within the breaſt, as my Lord Marqueſſes was. Doctor *Leiceſter*, one of Buckinghams creatures, ſeeing Doctor *More* and others ſo amazed at the ſight of my Lords body, drew firſt him aſide, and then the others, one after another, and whiſpered them in the eare to ſilence them.

Whereupon many went away, without ſpeaking one word, the other who remained, acknowledged that thoſe accidents of the dead body, could not be without poyſon; but they ſaid, they could not know how ſuch a ſubtile Art of poyſoning could be brought into England; your Petitioner replied, that money would bring both the Art and the Artiſt from the furtheſt part of the world into England, from whence ſince your Petitioners departure, he hath conferred with the skilfulleſt peſt-maſters that could be found, who viſit the bodies of thoſe that dye of the venome of the peſt.

They all admire the deſcription of my Lord Marqueſs his body, and teſtifie, that never any of the peſt, have ſuch accidents, but Carbuncles, Rubons, or Spots, no ſuch huge bliſters with waters, and ſuch a huge uniforme ſwelling to ſuch dimenſions above ſixe times the naturall proportion. But he hath met with ſome, who have practiſed the poyſoning of Dogges, to try the forces of ſome Antidotes, and they have found that ſome poyſons have made the Dogges ſicke for a fortnight, or more, without any ſwelling, untill they were dead, and then they ſwelled above meaſure, and became bliſtered with waters of divers colours; and the haire came away with the ſkin when it was touched.

The Phyſitians then who remained, were willing to certifie under their hands, that my Lord Marqueſs was poyſoned. But your petitioner told them, it was not needfull, ſeeing we muſt needs attend Gods leaſure to diſcover the author, the manner being ſo apparant, and ſo many hundred having ſeen the body to witneſſe it, for the doores were kept open for every man to behold and to be witneſs who would.

The Duke of Buckingham making ſome counterfeit ſhew of ſorrow to men of great quality, found no other ſhift to divert the ſuſpition of the poyſoning of the Marqueſs from him, but to lay it upon his maſter the King, ſaying, that the Marqueſs for his perſon, ſpirit and carriage,

was such as he was borne worthy to reigne; but the King his Master hated him to death, because hee had a spirit too much for the Common-weale; whereby the Duke did shew himselfe no good subject to the King, who made the Kings honour to be tyrannicall and the King a blood-thirsty murtherer, and a most vile dissembler, having heaped so many honours daily upon the Marquess, even to the very last, making him Lord high Steward of his Majesties House, and Judge of the very Court, whom he had made before Vice-roy of Scotland for the time of the Parliament in Scotland, Earle of Cambridge, privy Councellor in England, and Knight of the Garter, as if he had raised him to all these honours, that the murthering of him might be the lesse suspected to proceed from him.

The Kings nature hath alwayes been observed to have been so gracious and so free-hearted towards every one, that he would never have wished the Marquess any harme, unlesse that Buckingham had put great jealousies and feares into his minde: for if any other had done it, he would have acquainted his favourite therewith. And then was it Buckinghams duty to remove from the King such sinistrous conceits of the Marquess, as the Marquess hath often done of Buckingham, upholding him upon all occasions, and keeping the King from giving way to introduce any other favourite: wherefore *Buckingham* in that diversion of the crime from him, hath not onely made the King, but also himselfe guilty of the Marquess his death.

But *Buckinghams* falshood and ill intention was long before rightly discovered, when he did what he could to make the Earle of *Nithersdale* and my Lord *Gordon* (both neere kinsmen of my Lord Marquess) so incensed at him, that they had like all three to have killed one another, if it had not been that my Lord Marquess by his wisedome, did let them all know, how they were abused.

If any dissimulation bee greater then *Buckinghams*, let any man judge: For when my Lord Marquess his body was to bee transported from White-hall to his house at Bishops-gate, *Buckingham* came out muffled and furred in his Coach, giving out that hee was sicke for sorrow of my Lord Marquess his death; but as soone as hee went to his house out of London, before his comming to the King, he triumphed and domineered with his faction so excessively, as if hee had gained some great victory. And the next day comming to the King, put on

most lamentable and mournfull countenance for the death of my Lord Marquess. No greater victory could hee have gotten to his minde, then to have destroyed that man who could and would have fetched his head off his shoulders if hee had out-lived King *James*, to have knowne his carriage in the poysoning of him in his sickneſſe; wherefore hee thought it moſt neceſsary to remove the Marqueſs beforehand.

The ſame day that my Lord Marqueſs died, *Buckingham* ſent my Lord Marqueſs his ſonne out of Towne, keeping him as priſoner, that none could have private conference with him, untill his marriage of *Buckingham*s Neece was compleat; but alwayes either my Lord *Denbigh* or my Lady *Denbigh*, or my Lord Duke of *Buckingham*, or the Dutches of *Buckingham*, or the Counteſſe of *Buckingham* was preſent, that none could let him underſtand how his father was murthered. Even your Petitioner himſelfe, when he went to ſee him, within few dayes after his fathers death, was intreated not to ſpeak to him of the poyſoning of his father, which he did conceale at his firſt meeting, becauſe their ſorow was too recent. But hee was prevented of a ſecond meeting, neither would *Buckingham* ſuffer the young Lord to goe to Scotland to ſee his Fathers Funerals, and to take order with his friends concerning his fathers eſtate, for feare that their intended marriage ſhould be over-throwne.

This Captivitie of the young Lord Marqueſs laſted ſo long, untill that *Buckingham* cauſed his Majeſty, King CHARLES, to take the young Lord with himſelfe and *Buckingham*, into Saint *James* his Parke, diſcharging all others from following them; and there to perſwade and urge the Young Lord, without any more delay, to accompliſh the marriage with *Buckingham* his Neece, which inſtantly was performed: ſo that *Buckingham* truſteth and preſumeth, that albeit the young Lord ſhould underſtand how his father was poyſoned by his meanes, yet being married to his Neece, hee would not ſtirre to revenge it, but compoſe with it.

To all that is obſerved before, it is worthy to bee added, that the bruit went through *London* long before the Lord Duke of *Richmonds* death, or his brothers, or my Lord of *Southamptons*, or of the Marqueſs, that all the Noble men that were not of the Dukes faction, ſhould be poyſoned, and ſo removed out of his way.

Also a Paper was found in Kings Street, about the time of the Duke of Richmonds death, wherein the Names of all those Noblemen who have dyed since, were expressed; and your Petitioners Name also set next to my Lord Marquesse of *Hameltons* Name, with these words (*to imbalme him*) This Paper was brought by my Lord *Oldbarrs* Daughter, Cousin german to the Lord Marquesse: Likewise a Mountebanke, about that time, was greatly countenanced by the Duke of Buckingham, and by his meanes procured Letters Patents, and Recommendations from the King, to practise his skill in Physick through all England: who comming to London, to sell Poyson, to kill man or beast within a yeare, or halfe a yeare, or two yeares, or a moneth or two, or what time prefixed any man desired, in such sort that they could not be helped nor discovered. Moreover, the Christmas before my Lord Marquesse his death, one of the Prince his footmen said, That some of the great ones at Court had gotten Poyson in their belly, but he could not tell who it was.

Here your Honours considering the premisses, of my Lord Duke of Buckingham his ambitious and most vindicative nature, his frequent quarrels with my Lord Marquesse, after so many reconciliations; his threatning of the Physicians, not to speake of the Poyson; his triumphing after my Lord Marquesse his death; his detaining of his sonne almost prisoner, untill the Marriage was compleat with his Neece; the præceding bruit of Poysoning Buckingham his Adversaries; the Paper of their Names found, with sufficient intimation of their death, by the conclusion of the word (*embalming*) the Poyson-Monger, Mountebanke, graced by Buckingham, may suffice for ground to take him and torture him, if he were a private man: And herein your Petitioner most earnestly demandeth Justice against that Traytor, seeing by Act of Parliament it is made Treason to conspire the death of Privie Councellor. Out of this Declaration, Interrogatories may be drawne for Examination of Witnesses; wherein more is discovered to begin withall, then was layd open at the beginning of the Discoverie of the Poysoning of Sir *Thomas Overbury*.

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Concerning the poysoning of King IAMES, of happy memory, King of great BRITAINE.

THE Duke of Buckingham being in *Spaine*, advertised by Letters, how that the King began to censure him in his absence freely, and that many spake boldly to the King against him, and how the King had inteliigence from Spaine of his unworthy carriage in Spaine; and how the Marqueise *Hamelton* (upon the sudden newes of the Princes departure) had nobly reprehended the King for sending the Prince with such a young man, without experience, and in such a private and sudden manner, without acquainting the Nobility or Councell therewith, wrot a very bitter letter to the Marquess of Hamelton, conceived new ambitious courses of his owne, and used all the devices he could to disgust the Princes minde of the match with Spaine, so farre intended by the King, made haste home; where, when he came, he so carried himselfe, that whatsoever the King commanded in his Bed-chamber, hee controlled in the next; yea, received packets to the *King* from forraigne Princes, and dispatched answers without acquainting the *King* therewith, in a long time after. Whereat perceiving the *King* highly offended, and that the *Kings* minde was beginning to alter towards him, suffering him to bee quarrelled and affronted in his Maiesties presence; and observing that that the *King* reserved my Lord of Bristoll to be a rod for him, urging daily his dispatch for France, and expecting the Earle of Gondomor, who as it seemed was greatly esteemed and wonderfully credited by the *King*, and would second my Lord of Bristol his accusations against him. He knew also that the *King* had vowed, that in despite of all the Divels in hell, he would bring the Spanish match about again; and that the Marquess of *Inicosa* had given the *King* bad impressions of him by whose articles of accusation, the *King* himselfe had examined some of the Nobility and privy Councell, and found out in the examination, that *Buckingham* had said after his comming from Spaine, that the *King* was now an old man, it was now time for him to be at rest, and to bee confined to some parke, to passe the rest of his time in hunting, and the Prince to be crowned.

The more the King urged him to be gone to France the more shifts he made to stay: for he did evidently see that the King was fully resolved to rid himselfe of the oppression wherein he held him.

The King being sick of a certaine Ague, and that in the Spring, was of it selfe never found deadly; the Duke took his opportunity when all the Kings Doctors of Physick were at Dinner, upon the Munday before the King died, without their knowledge or consent, offered to him a white powder to take: the which he a long time refused; but overcome with his flattering importunity, at length took it in wine, and immediatly became worse and worse, falling into many swownings and paines, and violent fluxes of the belly so tormented, that his Majesty cried out aloud of this white powder, would to God I had never taken it; it will cost me my life.

In like manner also the Countesse of *Buckingham*, my Lord of *Buckinghams* mother, upon the Friday after, the Physitians being also absent and at Dinner, and not made acquainted with her doings, applied a plaister to the Kings heart and breast, whereupon he grew faint, short breathed, and in a great Agony. Some of the Physitians after dinner returning to see the King, by the offensive smell of the plaister, perceived something to bee about him hurtfull unto him, and searched what it should be, found it out, and exclaimed, that the King was poysoned. Then *Buckingham* entring, commanded the Physitians out of the roome, caused one of them to be committed prisoner to his owne chamber, and another to be removed from Court, quarrelled with others of the Kings servants in his sick Majesties owne presence, so farre that he offered to draw his sword against them in his Majesties sight. And *Buckinghams* mother kneeling downe before his Majesty, cryed out with a brazen face, Justice, Justice, Sir, I demand justice of your Majesty. His Majesty asked her for what? For that which their lives are no wayes sufficient to satisfie, for saying that my sonne and I have poysoned your Majesty. Poysoned me? said he; with that turning himselfe, swounded and she was removed.

The Sunday after his Majesty died, and *Buckingham* desired the Physitians who attended his Majesty, to signe with their hands a writ of testimony, that the powder which he gave him, was a good and safe medicine, which they refused.

Buckinghams creatures did spread abroad a rumour in London, that *Buckingham* was so sorry for his Majesties death, that he would have

died,

died, that he would have killed himselfe if they had not hindred him; which your Petitioner purposely enquired after of them that were neere him at that time, who said, that neither in the time of his Majesties sickneſſe, nor after his death, he was more moved, then if there had never happened either sicknes or death to his his Majesty,

One day when his Majesty was in great extremity, he rode post to *London* to pursue his sister in law to have her stand in sack-cloth in Sr. *Pauls* for adultery. And another time in his Majesties agonie, hee was busie in contriving and concluding a marriage for one of his cosens.

Immediatly after his Majesties death, the Phyſitian who was commanded to his chamber, was set at liberty with a caveat to hold his peace; the others threatned if they kept not good tongues in their heads.

But in the mean time the Kings body and head swelled above measure, his haire with the skin of his head, stuck to the pillow, his nailes became loose upon his fingers and toes.

Your Petitioner needeth to say no more to understanding men, only one thing he beseecheth, That taking the Traytor who ought to be taken without any feare of his greatneſſe, the other maters may bee examined, and the Acceſſaries with the Guilty punished.

FINIS.

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